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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

GOODWIN D. ZWANENBURG

Serial No: 09/678,457

Filed: October 3, 2000

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Atty. Docket No:

PHN 17665

Group Art Unit:1724

Examiner: I.C. CINTINS

Title: DEVICE FOR REGENERATING AN ION EXCHANGE CARTRIDGE

Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

RULE 116 AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action dated December 4, 2002, Applicant would like to make the following remarks under the provisions of 37 C.F.R.1.116:

REMARKS

The rejection of Claims 4-9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Scholer is considered to lack merit.

Scholer is not considered to teach or even suggest the device defined by even claim 9, the most generic claim.

Unlike in the device defined by Claim 9, in the device of Scholer the restriction (spring-loaded valve49) is not situated in the flow path of the regenerating solution situated between the outlet (46) of the reservoir (regenerant container 22) and the outlet (28) of the chamber (16) holding the exchange material